



CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY
OF
CHARLOTTESVILLE
AND ALBEMARLE COUNTY

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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
CHARLOTTESVILLE
VIRGINIA

Compiled by McLANE TILTON

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY

CHARLOTTESVILLE AND ALBEMARLE COUNTY VIRGINIA

- 1717 Governor Spotswood's expedition to the Blue Ridge Mountains with Knights of the Golden Horseshoe.
- 1727 County of Goochland formed and included present Albemarle. First land patents to George Hoopes and Nicholas Meriwether, the latter for what is now "Castle Hill" owned and occupied by Princess Troubetzkoy, nee Amélie Rives.
- 1730 Patent to John Carter for Carter's Mountain.
- 1734 Patent to Joe Terrell and David Lewis covering present locations of "Birdwood" and Kearney's Mountain.
- 1735 Patent to John Henry, father of Patrick.
Patent to Peter Jefferson, father of Thomas, including "Tuf-ton" and "Monticello."
Patent to Abraham Lewis for present site of the University of Virginia.
Patent to Michael Holland, "Farmington."
- 1737 Patent to William Taylor, site of Charlottesville.
Patent to Peter Jefferson for "Shadwell."
- 1743 Thomas Jefferson born at Shadwell, on farm owned by the late Downing L. Smith, Esq.
- 1744 County of Albemarle created, named after the second Earl of Albemarle, then Governor General of the Colony.
- 1745 Population of Albemarle county 4250 according to Mr. Jefferson's estimate.
- 1753 to 1781 County records for this period destroyed by Tarleton's Raiders.
- 1752 George Rogers Clark born, Conqueror of the Northwest, adding to the domain of Virginia what now comprises the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan.
- 1761 Counties of Buckingham and Amherst formed out of Albemarle.
- 1762 Site for Charlottesville bought from Richard Randolph by Thomas Walker of "Castle Hill."
- 1763 First town lots sold, average price one pound per acre.
- 1774 Meriwether Lewis, of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, born near Ivy Depot. The Expedition first explored Oregon and the Columbia River country and other territory included in the Louisiana Purchase negotiated by Mr. Jefferson.
- 1779 Prisoners captured at Burgoyne's surrender transferred to "The Barracks."
- 1781 State Legislature met at Charlottesville, Thomas Jefferson governor of the Commonwealth.
Tarleton's Raid.
- 1790 James Monroe bought the farm on which Prof. W. M. Thornton's residence now stands, Monroe Hill, University.
- 1792 Court Square enclosed.

- 1803 Work on present Court House started.
Albemarle Academy chartered.
- 1816 Central College established, on the first Board of Visitors were Thos. Jefferson, James Madison and James Monroe.
- 1817 Corner stone Central College laid, October 6.
Mr. Monroe rode horseback from "Ash Lawn," where he was then living, to Washington to be inaugurated president.
- 1818 Rockfish Gap Commission decided site for the University of Virginia.
- 1819 Cabell argued in the legislature for the bill founding the University.
Central College transmuted to University of Virginia.
- 1820 First issue of first paper, the *Central Gazette*.
- 1821 Mr. Jefferson estimated cost of land, 10 pavilions, 109 dormitories, and 6 hotels at University at \$207,000.00.
- 1824 Gen. Lafayette visited Mr. Jefferson at Monticello.
- 1825 Scholastic duties begun at the University March 7, with 40 students. By end of first session 116 students had enrolled.
- 1826 Ex-presidents Jefferson, Madison and Monroe served together on the Board of Visitors of the University.
Thomas Jefferson died, July 4.
Edgar Allan Poe entered the University, living at No. 13 West Range.
- 1830 James Barclay bought Monticello from T. J. Randolph, executor, 552 acres, for \$7,000.00.
First Temperance Society formed.
- 1836 Savings Bank of Charlottesville began business.
Uriah P. Levy, Commodore U. S. Navy, bought Monticello.
- 1842 St. George Tucker submitted the plan for the Honor System to the University faculty.
- 1857 First Y. M. C. A. to be formed in any college established at the University.
- 1859 Dawson's Row built.
- 1861 19th Infantry and 2nd Cavalry joined the Army of Virginia.
- 1865 Sheridan's Cavalry entered Charlottesville, Prof. John B. Minor successfully intervened with one of his Generals and saved the University from destruction.
- 1866 Richard J. Hancock came into possession of "Ellerslie," once the estate of William Short, Washington's Minister to the Hague, the property now famed as the home of noted racing sires.
- 1875 Monticello acquired by Jefferson M. Levy.
- 1880 Woodrow Wilson matriculated at the University and delivered a memorable oration on John Bright in the Jefferson Literary Society. Roomed at 31 West Range and House F, Dawson's Row.
- 1881 McCormick Observatory built.
- 1889 Lady Nancy Langhorne Astor's father bought "Mirador."
- 1890 President Cleveland visited the University.
- 1895 The Rotunda fire, followed by employment of Stanford White who after an examination of Jefferson's original drawings, stated these plans were feasible for any future expansion of the University.
- 1903 Theodore Roosevelt visited the University.

1905 Edwin A. Alderman inaugurated as the University's first president.

1907 Fiftieth Reunion of the founders of the Y. M. C. A.

1910 The Albemarle Pippin, the world's most famous apple, grown in commercial quantities and became a market factor. Dr. Thomas Walker of "Castle Hill" first brought grafts of the Newtown Pippin from New York and grafted on Albemarle's wild crab-apple. The word "pippin" is of Norman-French origin, meaning a young apple tree raised from seed. "There's pippins and cheese to come" Merry Wives of Windsor.

1913 First great alumni reunion at Finals.

1917 James Rogers McConnell, first Virginia student to die in the World War, Aviator Lafayette Escadrille, killed in battle in the air.

Monticello Guard entrained for the World War, leaving for camp at Anniston, Ala.

Organization of University Ambulance Unit.

Organization of University European Bureau.

1919 Jefferson tablet unveiled at Paris.

1920 Population Charlottesville 10,865.

Population Albemarle county 29,000.

Paul Jones won the Kentucky Derby.

Statue to Lewis and Clark and statue to George Rogers Clark presented by Paul Goodloe McIntire.

Chamber of Commerce organized.

1921 Public Library and Amphitheatre presented by Paul Goodloe McIntire.

University of Virginia celebrates its Centennial.

Tablet unveiled "In memory of the Sons of this University who gave their lives for freedom in the World War."

1923 Jefferson Memorial Foundation purchased Monticello and dedicated it as a National Shrine.

Centennial of Monroe Doctrine celebrated at Monticello.

1924 Memorial Gymnasium completed.

Woodrow Wilson died.

1926 Centennial of Edgar Allan Poe's matriculation.

Memorial exercises at Monticello commemorating the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration and the 100th anniversary of the death of its Author and Founder of the University of Virginia.

Registration, 2,057 students. In the College, 1,216; Law, 262; Engineering, 127; Medicine, 241; Graduate, 120; Education, 91. Summer Quarter registration, 2,212. In Extension Courses, 212. Nurses in training, 94.

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Charlottesville is an ideal place to spend a vacation, whether in the winter or summer. Equable climate permits of outdoor activity all year round. Excellent roads make side trips a delight to motorists. Fox hunting of the finest sort. Two excellent golf courses, one within walking distance of hotels, permit one to play from early morning to late evening. Well equipped swimming pools and recreational center.